

line 24, delete "1996.".

Page 5, line 7, delete "prior"; and

line 8, delete "Application No. 08/840,548" and substitute  
--5,897,560--.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Cancel claims 1 and 4-12.

Claim 2, line 1, delete "1" and substitute --13--.

Claim 3, line 1, delete "1" and substitute --13--.

Add the following new claim:

13. A femoral prosthesis, comprising:  
a femoral stem tapered from a proximal end to a distal end thereof,  
said stem having a substantially oval-shaped cross-section along its length  
except for a waist portion located substantially midway between the proximal  
and distal ends of the prosthesis, said waist portion including a twist of  
substantially 90° whereby major axes of oval cross-sections on opposite sides  
of the waist portion are disposed at an angle of substantially 90° with respect  
to one another.--